

Early Career STEM Research Initiative

To support an increase in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) students, professionals, and exchange visitors on educational and cultural exchange programs in the United States, and in accordance with the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchanges, _____, herein known as “Sponsor,” commits to the following:

1. **Sponsor has the interest and resources** to sponsor eligible exchange visitors for quality STEM training and/or research opportunities with U.S.-based STEM businesses.
2. **Sponsor affirms and understands** that the purpose of the Exchange Visitor Program is first and foremost a public diplomacy program that offers foreign nationals opportunities to participate in educational and cultural programs in the United States and return home to share their experiences, and to encourage Americans to participate in educational and cultural programs in other countries.
3. **Sponsor understands** that through this expression of interest, BridgeUSA at the U.S. Department of State will provide Sponsor a list of U.S.-based STEM businesses that have expressed an interest in hosting exchange visitors. This list should not be considered an endorsement of any business, and Sponsors are to conduct due diligence when assessing the suitability of any business as a host organization prior to the placement of exchange visitors.
4. **This statement of interest does not alter** the Exchange Visitor Program regulations that Sponsor must follow when recruiting, orienting, placing, and monitoring eligible exchange visitors.

PRINTED NAME

TITLE

SIGNATURE

DATE



BridgeUSA